

**INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2016 – 7:42 P.M.
WOODSTOCK TOWN HALL – LOWER LEVEL, ROOM B**

MINUTES

Present: Chair Mark Parker, Diane Wolff, Marla Butts, Wayne (Woody) Durst, Tina Lajoie (IWWA Clerk)

Absent: Carl Knittel, Patty Lacasse, Terry Bellman (Agent)

I. Call to Order – Meeting was called to order by Chair Mark Parker at 7:42 p.m.

II. Roll Call – Woody Durst, Diane Wolff, Mark Parker, Marla Butts

III. Appointment of Alternates – None

IV. Action on Minutes of Previous Meeting – August 1, 2016 and September 12, 2016

Mark Parker asks about CACIWC membership renewal and whether this was done. Chair Parker asks that this item be added to the agenda. No additional questions or corrections.

ALL MEMBERS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BOTH MINUTES AS PRESENTED.

V. Old Business

1. 09-16-12 Lance & Michelle Bouchard, 188 Baxter Rd. – cattail removal and adding sand to the beach area

Lance Bouchard asks that the wording of this application be amended from “weed removal from beach” to “cattail removal and adding sand to the beach area”. There will be no expansion of beach. They may want to add sand in the next five years. Beach area is 20’ x 20’. A letter from the Lake Association was submitted which gives their approval for the work. Sand is placed onto the beach area, approximately one dump truck load, maybe 5 or 6 cubic yards. Removal of 45 cubic yards for cattails (an estimate from Donny D.) to be done when lake is lowered in mid-October. Chair Parker comments that he is not opposed to removal of cattails but feels that shorefront land owners should be made aware of the benefits of having growth around the edge of the lake. These plants take up the nutrients that are in the storm-water run-off and also leaching out of the ground and if the vegetation is all removed, it makes more nutrients available in the water for algae blooms, etc. Removal of these cattails does put the lake more at risk for algae blooms and the like. D. Wolff responds that the Lake Association did hire a water quality expert from UCONN who presented care and treatment at a meeting, and that was mentioned.

Mike O’Shaughnessy asks about whether there are any restrictions with fertilization of lawns within a certain distance of the lake. It is pointed out by D. Wolff, that the association does advise homeowners but does not require or monitor. Chair Parker shares information on a New England region-wide voluntary turf fertilizer initiative and there is a whole series of guidelines and recommendations. It’s posted on the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission’s website, NEIWPCC. He further states that the DEEP is currently working on an amendment for this guideline to actually be a state regulation, that fertilizer cannot be applied to a lawn within 25 feet of the water’s edge. A number of states are already on board and it will be coming up before the CT Legislation in a year or two.

**MOTION BY D. WOLFF TO APPROVE #09-16-12 TO ALLOW CATTAIL REMOVAL FROM BEACH AND ADDING SAND TO EXISTING BEACH AREA. SECONDED BY M. BUTTS.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

VI. New Business

1. 10-16-14 Mike O'Shaughnessy, 45 Crooked Trail – Retaining wall

Application is complete. Applicant explains the location of retaining wall and existing beach at water's edge. Satellite aerial photographs are viewed. Work is to be done when water is lowered. Proposed footings for the wall, processed gravel and 1¼" stone, with a foot in depth. Material to be excavated from the lake bottom, but not below the high water mark. Beach area will have a gradual instead of steep slope. The wall will be on the shore, not in the water. No concern for wave action or frost. Request for additional information on plan, north arrow and label as Witches Wood Lake.

**MOTION TO ACCEPT FOR CONSIDERATION #10-16-14, SECONDED BY W. DURST.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Additional information from Mr. O'Shaughnessy on Quassett Lake Association members discussing the purchase of a weed harvester to remove weeds which would then limit the use of chemicals in the lake. D. Wolff comments that she is unaware of this in the near future, no funds at this time. It was discussed that if one was purchased, perhaps all the nearby lake associations could use the same equipment and there could be cost-sharing measures.

VII. WETLANDS AGENT ACTIVITY REPORT

1. As stated by T. Lajoie, T. Bellman is not available but there were a couple of sign-offs that were not complete for the meeting. They will be in next month's packet.

2. M. Butts comments on Woodstock Farms complaint not acted upon. The information was provided to T. Bellman and T. Lajoie will follow-up with him.

3. T. Lajoie gives handout to Commissioners regarding PZC upcoming work on subdivision regulations and reminds everyone to review and get involved in the process, recommends that the Agency put their collective comments in writing for PZC and also review the current POCD.

4. T. Lajoie gives information on PZC discussions on Agri-Hood whereby developers are combining working farms and new homes to appeal to buyers who want to get back to nature without going too far. Planning communities with housing built around working farms.

5. Invitation from Conservation to their presentation on Oct 24th regarding aquifer protection for safe drinking water.

6. CACIWC membership renewal is due. We will join as a combined group with the Conservation Commission. Not sure if we already renewed the membership. T. Lajoie will follow-up with the treasurer to make sure it is done. M. Butts will be attending the annual CACIWC workshop.

VIII. Citizen's comments / other topics

IX. Adjournment

MOTION TO ADJOURN BY M. BUTTS, SECONDED BY D. WOLFF AT 08:38 P.M. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina M. Lajoie, IWWA Clerk

Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency

